

METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR STATEFUL STORAGE PROCESSING IN STORAGE AREA NETWORKS

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A system (and methods) for performing a service operation on a Fibre Channel or other like channels. The system has an interface coupled to a Fibre Channel. A classifier is coupled to the interface. The classifier is adapted to receive an initiator frame from the interface. The classifier is adapted to determine header information from the initiator frame and is also adapted to determine source information, destination information, and exchange information from the header information. A flow content addressable memory is coupled to the classifier. The flow content addressable memory is configured to store one or more header information. Each of the one or more header information is associated with a state. The system has a rule content addressable memory coupled to the classifier. The rule content addressable memory is configured to store one of a plurality of policies. A processing module is coupled to the classifier. The processing module is adapted to process an incoming payload associated with the initiator frame and the header information.

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